

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A system for providing selective fee-based collaborative sharing of access to data stored on a shared data peripheral device comprising:
 - a data peripheral system comprising at least one data input/output device;
 - a secure data storage medium;
 - allocation means adapted to allocate a selected-storage area in the secure data storage medium;
 - means adapted for receiving login data corresponding to an identity of an associated user;
 - means adapted for receiving, from the associated user, formatting data corresponding to a format for storage of electronic document data;
 - data communication means adapted for communicating electronic document data received from the associated user via the at least one data input/output device into the selected storage area of secure data storage medium for storage in accordance with received formatting data;
 - accounting means adapted for securing charge information from the associated user, which charge information allows for securing of payment for use of the data peripheral system;
 - verification means adapted for securing charge verification information corresponding to charge information received from the associated user;
 - enabling means adapted for enabling operation of the data peripheral system in accordance with an output of the verification means so as to provide fee-based access of the associated user to the peripheral system;
 - means adapted for receiving, from the associated user, an access control list corresponding to including an identity of at least one user selected by the associated user as authorized to have future access to the electronic document data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium;

means adapted for storing the access control list, which access control list dictates an identity of users authorized to access the data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium;

means adapted for generating secure login data for each authorized user associated with the access control list;

means adapted for communicating login information corresponding to secure login data to each authorized user;

means adapted for receiving login data from the at least one authorized user;

testingauthenticating means adapted for testing authenticating received login data from the at least one authorized user against the access control list; and

means adapted for communicating the electronic document data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium to the at least one authorized user in accordance with an output of the testing authenticating means.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The system for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 1 further comprising means adapted for selectively de-allocating the selected storage area in the secure data storage medium after expiration of a preselected duration.

4. (Original) The system for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 1 wherein the data peripheral system includes at least one of a printer, facsimile, scanning device, character recognition system, and storage device.

5. (Currently amended) The system for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 1 further comprising means adapted for selecting parameters for a selected data processing operation undertaken in connection with the data stored in the secure data storage medium.

6. (Original) The system for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 1 wherein the charge information includes information associated with at least one of a pre-paid debit card, coupon, and credit card.

7. (Original) The system for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 1 further comprising tracking means adapted for tracking the user's usage of the data peripheral system and cost generating means adapted for receiving an output from the tracking means and generating a cost for the user's usage of the data peripheral system.

8. (Original) The system for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 7 further comprising billing means adapted for receiving an output from the cost generating means and applying the output to the user's charge information.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for providing selective fee-based collaborative sharing of access to data stored on a shared data peripheral device comprising the steps of:

allocating a selected storage area in a secure data storage medium;
receiving login data corresponding to an identity of an associated user;
receiving, from the associated user, formatting data corresponding to a format for storage of electronic document data;

communicating electronic document data received from the associated user via at least one data input/output device in a data peripheral system into the selected storage area of secure data storage medium for storage in accordance with received formatting data;

securing charge information from the associated user, which charge information allows for securing of payment for use the data peripheral system;

securing charge verification information corresponding to charge information received from the associated user;

enabling operation of the data peripheral system in accordance with an output of the verification means so as to provide fee-based access of the associated user to the peripheral system;

receiving, from the associated user, an access control list corresponding to an identity of at least one user selected by the associated user as authorized to have future access to the electronic document data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium;

storing the access control list, which access control list dictates an identity of users authorized to access the data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium;

generating secure login data for each authorized user associated with the access control list;

communicating login information corresponding to secure login data to each authorized user;

receiving login data from the at least one authorized user;

testing authenticating received login data from the at least one authorized user against the access control list; and

communicating the electronic document data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium to the at least one authorized user in accordance with an output of the testing authenticating step.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 9 further comprising the step of selectively de-allocating the selected storage area in the secure data storage medium after expiration of a preselected duration.

12. (Original) The method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 9 wherein the data peripheral system includes at least one of a printer, facsimile, scanning device, character recognition system, and storage device.

13. (Currently amended) The method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 9 further comprising the step of selecting parameters for a selected data processing operation undertaken in connection with the data stored in the secure data storage medium.

14. (Original) The method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 9 wherein the charge information includes information associated with at least one of a pre-paid debit card, coupon, and credit card.

15. (Original) The method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 9 further comprising the step of tracking the user's usage of the data peripheral system and generating a cost for the user's usage of the data peripheral system.

16. (Original) The method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 15 further comprising the step of applying the generated cost to the user's charge information.

Claims 17-22 (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for providing selective fee-based ~~collaborative sharing of~~ access to data stored on a shared data peripheral devices comprising the steps of:

allocating a selected storage area in a secure data storage medium;

receiving login data corresponding to an identity of an associated user;

receiving, from the associated user, formatting data corresponding to a format for storage of electronic document data;

communicating data received from the associated user via at least one data input/output device in a data peripheral system into the selected storage area of secure data storage medium;

securing charge information from the associated user, which charge information allows for securing of payment for use the data peripheral system;

securing charge verification information corresponding to charge information received from the associated user;

enabling operation of the data peripheral system in accordance with an output of the verification means so as to provide fee-based access of the associated user to the peripheral system;

receiving, from the associated user, an access control list corresponding to an identity of at least one user selected by the associated user as authorized to have future access to the electronic document data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium;

storing the access control list, which access control list dictates an identity of users authorized to access the data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium;

generating secure login data for each authorized user associated with the access control list;

communicating login information corresponding to secure login data to each authorized user;

receiving login data from the at least one authorized user;

testing authenticating received login data from the at least one authorized user against the access control list; and

communicating the electronic document data stored in the selected storage area of the secure data storage medium to the at least one authorized user in accordance with an output of the testing authenticating step.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 23 further comprising the step of selectively deallocating the selected storage area in the secure data storage medium after expiration of a preselected duration.

26. (Original) The computer-implemented method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 23 wherein the charge information includes information associated with at least one of a pre-paid debit card, coupon, and credit card.

27. (Original) The computer-implemented method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 23 further comprising the step of tracking the user's

usage of the data peripheral system and generating a cost for the user's usage of the data peripheral system.

28. (Original) The computer-implemented method for providing fee-based access to shared data peripheral devices of claim 27 further comprising the step of applying the generated cost to the user's charge information.